GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:236
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
SUB-STANDARD DRUGS
SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `sub standard drugs creating havoc` appearing in the Hindu dated December 27, 2002;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to instruct drug manufacturers in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) : In the press report, a general statement has been made that drug formulations got manufactured on contract basis or loan license may not conform to the standards to which these might have adhered to if the same are manufactured by the principal manufacturer itself whose name appears on the label. It has been further stated that the actual address of the premises where the drug has been manufactured does not figure on the label. The press report, however has not mentioned any specific instance where the quality has been found to be compromised because of its manufacture on loan license.

The Drugs and Cosmetic Act and Rules made thereunder permits, the manufacture of drugs on loan license and the Manufacturing License Number of the licensee is required to be indicated on the label of the drug. The manufacturer, whose name appears on the label, is responsible for the quality of the drug marked by him and is required to ensure that drugs so manufactured conform to the prescribed standards. No complaints have been received by the Directorate General of Health Services regarding quality of drugs manufactured on loan license.